

Weekend Conference on Problems of Alcohol Ranges from Skid Row Reports to Challenges

Many of the dangers and tragedies caused by excessive drinking were pointed out to 70 delegates from eight communities when they attended the Toc-Alpha Conference in the Christian Education Centre of St. Paul's United Church on the weekend.

Delegates from Toronto, Ancaster, Milton, Burlington, Oakville, Georgetown, Freeton and Hamilton conferences met on Friday night and all-day Saturday and according to co-chairman Cinda Martin of Milton, "the whole weekend was a tremendous success."

Bad Effects

Although the program was designed to be entertaining as well as informative, the bad effects of teenage drinking were stressed. Experts on nearly every facet of drinking spoke to the delegates and "I'm sure everyone learned some important lessons," Miss Martin said.

The conference was sponsored by members of Toc-Alpha from Georgetown and Milton and Toc-Alpha director Thomas A. Knott helped arrange the event.

The conference began on Friday evening with Deputy-Reeve Astan Ledwith of Milton offering words of welcome to the delegates. Mr. Knott gave a short introductory talk and Miss Martin explained some of the plans for the weekend.

ceremonies, Father Vander Zanden from Toronto led in a hootenanny with music supplied by Ruth Forbes and her brother Ron Break, the Mikesmen from St. Michael's high school and the St. Joseph's Travellers from Toronto. Following the hootenanny former Miltonian Tom Higgs was disc jockey for record hop which lasted until midnight.

The Saturday program began with a devotional given by Rev. J. L. Graham of St. Paul's United Church, Milton. Mr. Knott then led a question and answer period on the topic of "Teens A-Go-Go" and explained some of the reasons why teenagers take to drinking.

Surprising Information

Dr. Carl Hiltz of Milton spoke on "Metabolism of Alcohol" and revealed some surprising facts. He reported there were 100,000 alcoholics in Ontario and since each alcoholic affects a minimum of five people, at least 500,000 people in this province alone are affected by excessive drinking.

Father Vander Zanden closed out the morning conferences suggesting a pattern for successful living that teenagers would do well to follow. Throughout his address he spoke about learning to like people and he pointed out that each and every teenager should set a goal in life and continually strive to reach it.

After the last conference in the morning a brief group discussion period was held and groups of six or seven delegates discussed almost every phase of teenage life.

Panel Answers

A teen panel discussion in the afternoon concerned itself mainly with the question, "Why do teens drink?" Answers to the question ranged from "boredom" to "because they want to prove they are adults."

Two youths from the House of Concord discussed "Why teens are in Trouble" and according to Miss Martin, "I think their talks were the highlight of the whole weekend." The two youth, Jim, 21 and Bill, 19, recounted how they started to drink at the age of 13 and how alcohol continually got them into trouble. The boys reported that they had both disliked the taste of alcohol when they started to drink and they suggested that nearly every teenager recoils at the taste.

Tell of Skid Row

Later in the afternoon, two men from "Harbour Light" attended the conference and described their battles with alcohol. Mr. Abraham reported he had been an alcoholic and a drug addict for 25 years, but that he was not touched either one in more than seven years. He explained that at one time it used to cost him \$150 a week for drugs.

Mr. Wise suggested he had been a skid row alcoholic and had drunk enough to kill any man. He had had six heart attacks.

Both men have now reformed and are doing their best to educate young people in the dangers of drinking.

Concluding Banquet

The conference closed Saturday evening with a banquet with Don Parsons of Queen's University giving a half hour talk. Throughout his address, he asked "young people, are you looking for a challenge?" and then he would suggest a challenge.

Although fewer attended the conference than expected, Miss Martin noted "I'm sure it was a success because it gave the delegates a chance to exchange ideas and to think."

Halton Crown Attorney P. K. McWilliams gave a brief address and pointed out that 43 deaths had been caused by alcohol in Halton during the past four years.

Humpy Dumpty, Christie's, Pepsi Cola, J. M. Ledwith, Milton Dairy, Halton Creamery, Ron Harris, Mrs. Frank Martin, the people who billeted delegates. E. W. Foster, all the speakers, Chief Address, Andy Kietly, the entertainers on Friday night, high school principal R. C. Hunter, Bob Reed, John Ostler, the Rotary club, Rev. Graham and the Chamber of Commerce.

Milton delegates at the conference who helped out were registrar Pam Green, Terry Deslaurier, Larry Gardhouse, Paul Foster who worked long hours to decorate the Christian Education Centre, Art Lawson, Gary Wickens and Linda Coulson.

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SCHOOL NEWS

Milton Mustangs pulled off their first win of the season on Friday, belting Fergus High 25-6. Alan Walker quarterbacked the Mustangs to victory and received strong backfield assistance from Leon Stickle. Milton's defence also turned in a strong performance.

In other sports this week, the boys' volleyball team journeyed to Georgetown, to cop the best of three games from last year's champions and then turned around and handed the Acton squad the same medicine as they took them two games to one.

Girls' Volleyball

At the same time, the girls' volleyball team suffered defeat at the hands of the Acton girls. A volleyball tournament will be held in Guelph on the 22nd of October.

Milton High's soccer team was edged 2-1 by Erin recently. Dorian Poloni was the only Milton goal getter. The club led 1-0 in the first half on Dorian's marker but couldn't hold off the strong Erin attack in the second half.

In inter-school sports, Jerry Duncan won the cross-country race with Norman Rutledge finishing second.

The Record Dance committee is looking forward to its second dance of the year, to be held on Friday night. We hope there will be a good turnout for the swing-

ing session in the enlarged gym. In upcoming sports activity, the soccer team will be home to Acton on Tuesday and the Mustangs will travel to Guelph to do battle with GCVI. Basketball teams will also start practising very soon. —Cam Allen.

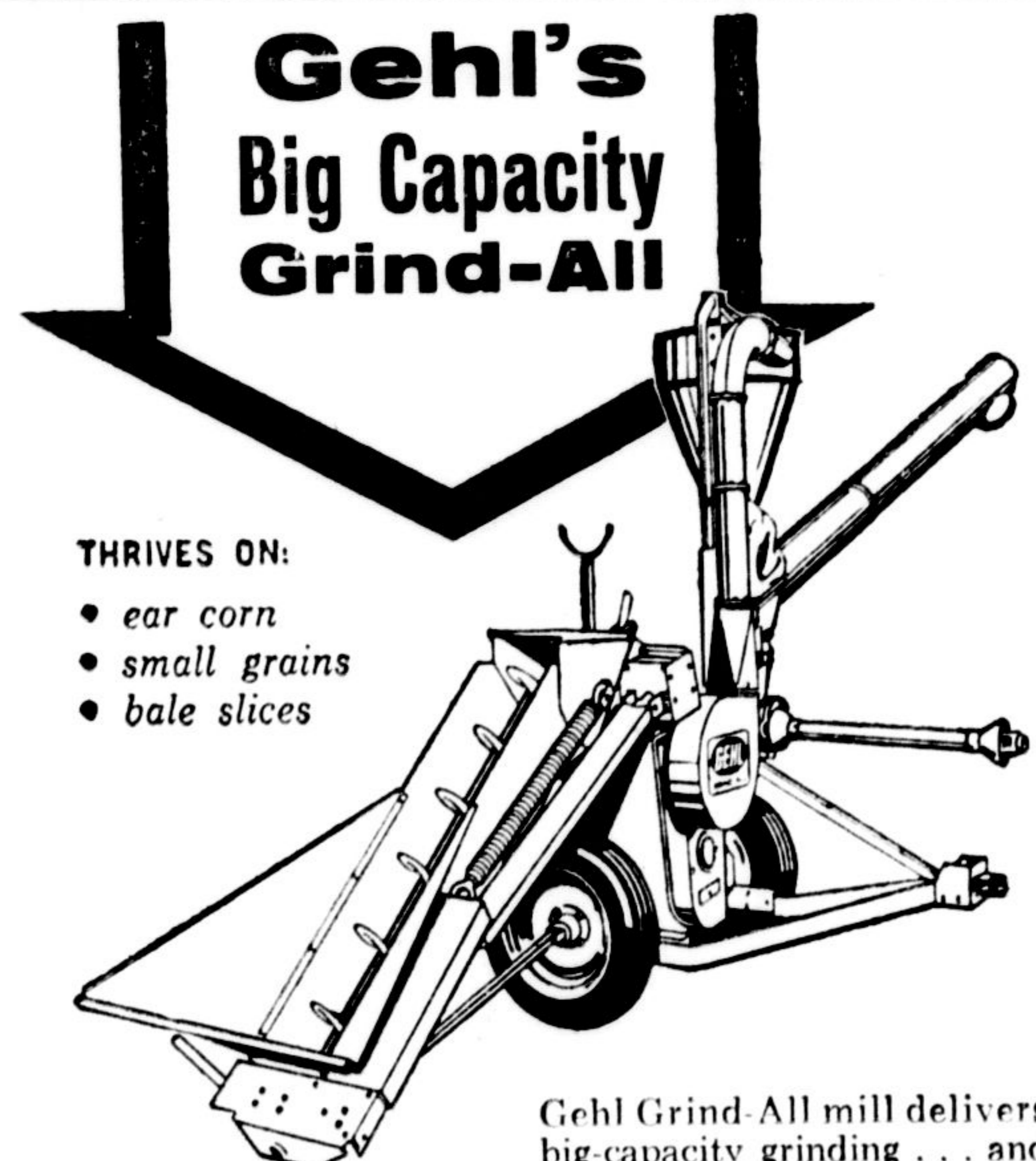
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Legion Notes

By Charles Scott

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Two of our members, Com. Alex Penick and Reg Corp. have been busy erecting a second flag pole at the cenotaph in preparation for the forthcoming Remembrance Day Parade. The concrete base has been set and the job will be complete by this weekend.

INFORMATION REQUIRED

To complete the records of our Cenotaph Committee, information is required as to the full Christian names of the following veterans killed in action whose names appear on the cenotaph with an initial only:

W. Croft, J. March, J. E. Robertson, S. J. Robertson, H. G. Robinson, F. Manley, A. Tuxworth, G. O. Turner, S. T. Williams, F. J. Weller.

If anyone knows any of these Christian names please contact Com. Charles Kennedy at 6539, Jack Ford at 9744 or myself at 6662.

FULL HOUSE

The Couples' Club had a record turnout at their social evening on Saturday. Most people, including visitors from Toronto and Brantford, found it an ideal way to relax after the hectic day at the dart tournament. This function will not be held this week as the Couples' Club will be holding their monthly dance on the second floor with Tiny Hopkins supplying the music.

THE TOURNAMENT

On Saturday last 29 teams and one extra doubles turned up at our Legion Hall to take part in the tournament promoted by our dart-playing members. The proceedings were in charge of Com. Fred Johnson and Sports Officer Bob Krantz. Catering for the large number of people (some of whom came from Toronto and Brantford) was very efficiently carried out by our Ladies' Auxiliary. It was a full and busy day for

all those concerned in the running of this tournament and they are to be congratulated on a very fine and successful effort.

INDUSTRIAL DARTS

The Milton Industrial Dart League commenced on October 6 with seven teams by October 13. There are now eight teams. League standings as of October 13th: Richardson's TV 24, Trafalgar Motors 20, The Superiors 18, The Scotrams 18, The Long Shots 18, O.S.P. 14, Odds and Ends 10, Halves and Halves 6.

PLAYERS WANTED

Dart players are wanted for the above league. If you just think you can play darts come along to the clubroom after 8 p.m. Wednesdays and contact Fred Johnson or John Kennedy.

SHUFFLEBOARD

Regular season play to commence on Thursday, October 21. It is expected that the new top to the shuffleboard table will be installed by then.

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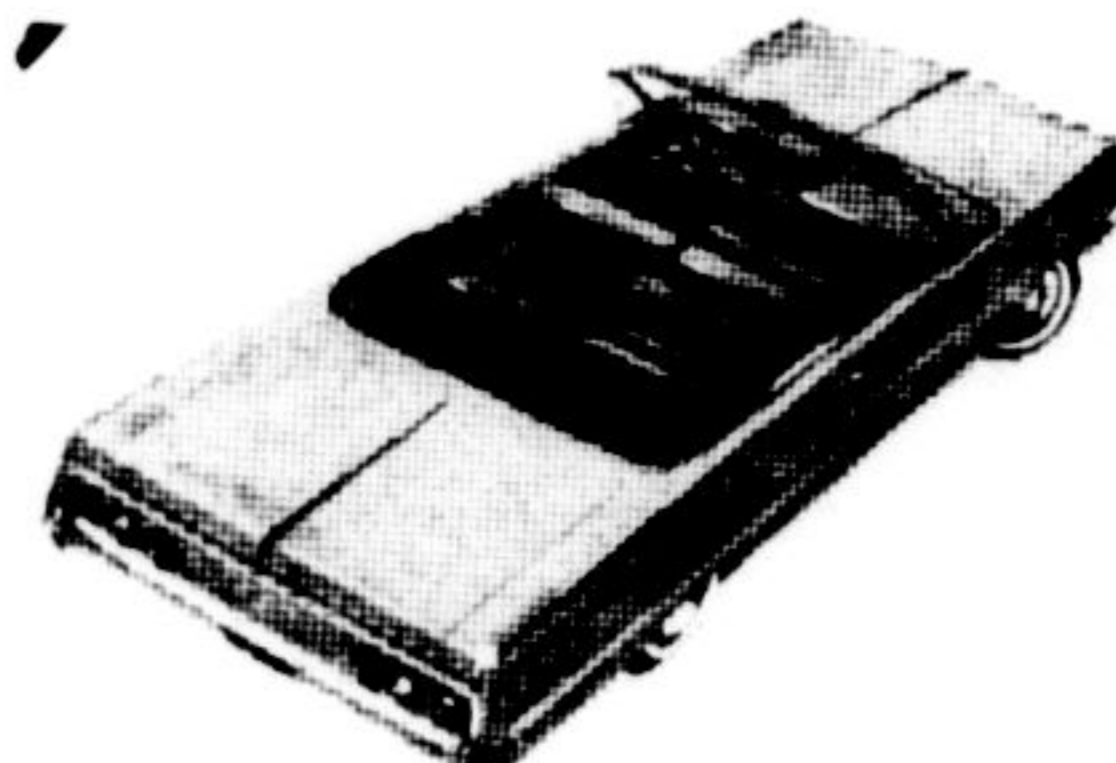
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